



regalia shown, including parachute, is said to weigh 58½ lb.

AVIATION



et Air Arm News : Military Aviation Abroad

Turrets on Demons

It will have been gathered from pictures of Demons of No. 23 (F.) Squadron appearing in the daily Press that such aircraft have been fitted with Nash and Thompson (Parnall) hydraulically operated gun turrets. These devices are intended to facilitate the use of the Lewis gun and should considerably augment the potentialities of the Demon for aerial combat.

It may be recalled that a representative of *Flight* was privileged

last year to fly at Martlesham in a Demon fitted experimentally with one of these turrets. He wrote: "It is the most human gadget imaginable; one has only to think of the direction in which one wishes to aim the gun and the indescribable mechanism seems to do the rest."

Reunion Dinners

A REUNION dinner for officers of the Electrical and Wireless School (No. 7 "T," Farnborough and Flowerdown), will be held at the R.A.F. Club, 128, Piccadilly, London, on Saturday, January 22, 7 p.m. for 7.30. Those interested are asked to write to Flt. Lt. F. S. Wainscot, E. and W. School, Cranwell, Lincs.

A twenty-first anniversary reunion dinner for past and present officers of No. 84 (Bomber) Squadron will be held on Friday, January 14, at the R.A.F. Club, 128, Piccadilly, W.1, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. The price of tickets is 11s. 6d. each (exclusive of wines). Evening dress with decorations will be worn. Those officers desirous of attending should communicate with either Wing Cdr. F. J. Fogarty, D.F.C., A.F.C., or Mr. C. L. Stubbs, at the R.A.F. Club.

Royal Air Force Gazette

Royal Air Force

General Duties Branch

F/O. S. T. Misselbrook is promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant (October 24, 1937).

Royal Air Force Reserve

General Duties Branch

The following Flight Lieutenants are transferred from class A to class C on the dates stated:—J. H. Barringer (May 22, 1937; A. T. Orchard (December 28, 1937).

Royal Air Force Appointments

General Duties Branch

Wing Commanders.—H. W. G. J. Penderel, M.C., A.F.C., to School of Naval Co-operation, Ford; to command, 1.12.37. W. K. Mercer, to R.A.F. Station, Kenley; to command, 6.12.37. G. S. Oddie, D.F.C., A.F.C., to R.A.F. Station, Turnhouse; to command, 6.12.37. G. E. Wilson, to Headquarters, No. 12 (F.) Group, Hucknall; for Air Staff duties, 1.12.37.

Squadron Leaders.—V. H. Clift, to Headquarters, Coastal Command, Lee-on-the-Solent; for Air Staff (Intelligence) duties, 6.12.37. J. Norwood, to Headquarters, Fighter Command, Stanmore; for Air Staff (Intelligence) duties, 18.12.37. C. M. Heard, to Headquarters, No. 25 (Armament) Group, Eastchurch; for Air Staff (Armament) duties, 18.12.37. F. J. Fressanges, to Directorate of

Training, Air Ministry, 18.12.37.

Flight Lieutenant.—W. F. Pharaayn, to No. 72 (F.) Squadron, Church Fenton, 18.12.37.

Medical Branch

Flight Lieutenants.—H. E. Bellringer, to No. 203 (G.R.) Squadron, Basrah, Iraq, 25.11.37. T. J. M. Gregg, to R.A.F. Station, Helio-polis, Egypt, 19.11.37. S. R. C. Nelson, to No. 45 (B.) Squadron, Helwan, Egypt, 14.11.37.

Chaplains Branch

Rev. R. N. Shapley, M.C., to Headquarters, R.A.F., Palestine and Transjordan, Jerusalem, 22.11.37. Rev. W. E. Woosnam-Jones, to R.A.F. Station, Cranwell, 16.11.37.

FOREIGN SERVICE NEWS

Gas

ACCORDING to a Dutch authority a gas bomb, on account of its relatively thin casing, will carry up to 50 per cent. of its total weight in the form of chemicals, whereas a typical gas shell contains only 8 per cent. The shell, moreover, wastes most of its contents impregnating the ground, calculations indicating that only 5 per cent. of the charge will pollute the air some distance away.

A Yperite (mustard gas) bomb weighing 4.6 kg. will infect a surface of about 160 sq. m. Even so, it is stated, it will take nine aircraft, dropping sixteen bombs apiece at intervals of 25 m., to infect a surface 200 x 350 sq. m., the contamination being 6 gm. of chemical per square metre.

In the opinion of the authority who presents these figures, raiders attacking a town would rely mainly on incendiary bombs to start fires, hampering the fire-fighting arrangements with delay-action bombs. A certain amount of gas would be used for moral effect.

The Position in Paraguay

SEVERAL important political developments in Paraguay have, to a certain extent, upset plans for the development of civil and military aviation. The Paraguayan Air Force is still waiting for machines from Italy, but a number of pilots and mechanics have come to Europe to receive instruction in the handling and maintenance of modern aircraft and to take delivery of a number of Caproni bomber-reconnaissance machines. Certain of the pilots will visit England to look into the possibilities of a number of our types for Paraguayan service. A correspondent writes that several other types are badly needed, including trainers, light transports and, to a lesser extent, fighters, including single-seaters.

At the moment, the Paraguayan Air Force is practically without flying equipment, no machines having been bought since the beginning of the Gran Chaco war. The few machines left are out of date and in bad condition.